Utah Department of Health
Promote ■ Prevent ■ Protect

Taverns, Clubs Get Help Going Smoke-free

SALT LAKE CITY –To support the transition to smoke-free taverns and private clubs across the state, the Utah Department of Health (UDOH) is distributing smoke-free implementation toolkits to owners/operators.

The smoke-free taverns and private clubs law goes into effect at midnight on Jan. 1, 2009. It was approved by the state legislature in 2006 to create a healthier environment for patrons and workers. The kits explain the law and underscore the fact that smoke-free regulations can protect health without hurting business. The kits include fact sheets and smoke-free materials like stickers, signs, posters, table tents and napkins to promote the law.

"We're thrilled Utah is joining hundreds of other cities, states and countries in protecting residents' health," said David Neville, media coordinator, UDOH Tobacco Prevention and Control Program. "We can celebrate the New Year knowing employees and patrons alike will be protected from the serious health effects of secondhand smoke."

In June 2006, former U.S. Surgeon General Richard Carmona released a report that found secondhand smoke to be a proven cause of lung cancer, heart disease, serious breathing problems like bronchitis and asthma, low infant birth weight, and sudden infant death syndrome.

For more information about the statewide tobacco prevention effort and to see the toolkit, visit www.tobaccofreeutah.org. For help quitting tobacco, call 1.888.567.TRUTH or visit www.utahquitnet.com.

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The mission of the Utah Department of Health is to protect the public's health through preventing avoidable illness, injury, disability and premature death; assuring access to

affordable, quality health care; and promoting healthy lifestyles.